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**EAST KESTEVEN
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1951

JOHN W. SCHOLEY, M.B., Ch.B.

Including the
**Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector
J. A. F. SAVILLE, M.S.I.A.**

East Kesteven Rural District Council

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR JOSEPH WILLIAM DIXON, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR JOHN HUGH BRIGHTON, J.P.

Members:

Councillor F. W. Padley	Councillor T. Fairchild
„ E. L. Harris	„ R. Couling
„ T. Curtis	„ J. Harrod
„ F. Panter	„ Mrs. M. F. Herring
„ Lt. Col. F. E. S. Bowly,	„ E. M. Key
M.C.	„ J. E. Crust
„ S. F. Lamyman	„ A. Wilson
„ J. B. Howard	„ R. B. Cullen
„ G. H. Goose	„ A. Burdett
„ C. Hobbins	„ F. Codd
„ A. Leggate	„ J. N. Wright
„ G. W. Pick	„ W. Everard
„ J. Taylor	„ Mrs. N. Robson
„ J. Baumber	„ R. E. Hudson
„ T. Smallhorn	„ W. Tomlinson
„ A. Baumber	„ C. R. T. Bell
„ E. Mitchell	„ S. T. Wood
„ Mrs. E. M. Christian, J.P.	„ J. A. Widdowson
„ R. O. Davies	„ F. Smith
„ J. R. Auckland	„ G. W. Hall
„ R. P. Liddiard	„ C. H. Osborn
„ Mrs. M. A. E. Bickerton	„ H. Barker
„ G. Sardeson	„ Rev. G. R. Bickerton

Clerk of the Council:

GEORGE DALE.

Staff of Health Department

Medical Officer of Health:

JOHN W. SCHOLEY, M.B., CH.B.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

JOHN A. F. SAVILLE, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

JOHN WYNN JONES.

Technical Assistant:

PETER BIRD.

Clerk:

MISS E. P. JONES.

12, MARKET PLACE,
SLEAFORD.

August, 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of the
East Kesteven Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1951. As the statistics show, your area compares very favourably with the rest of the country.

We have been fortunate in experiencing no major epidemic of any severity during the past year. It was thought that, following the severe epidemic of Acute Poliomyelitis the previous year, this area must be fairly well "saturated" with the virus responsible and therefore the community should have developed an immunity. The fact that only 2 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified last year tends to support this but does not, of course, prove it. However, it was with considerable relief that we passed safely through the danger period of the year.

There was one large outbreak of food poisoning which occurred amongst the school children attending several of the schools in the Council's area. All the affected children were found to have consumed milk from the same supply and full investigations tended to support this as being the causative agent. Fortunately the outbreak, although it affected a large number of children, was a mild one and only a few children had to be attended by their Doctor.

The outbreak does draw attention however, to the ease with which food can become contaminated and I feel there is still room for much improvement in the general hygiene of food handlers, producers, etc., throughout the country.

The health services have continued to function satisfactorily and all branches are kept fully occupied.

The housing shortage is still a major problem but new houses are being erected with all speed. Lack of satisfactory water supplies is delaying this in some villages and in other villages the antiquated and hopelessly inadequate sewage systems are proving a constant source of trouble as new houses are, of necessity, drained into them.

I wish to thank all members of the Public Health staff for their work in the past year, the Clerk of the Council, and members for their help and encouragement in my efforts.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN W. SCHOLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	123,406
Population (Registrar General's figure 1951):—							
Total home population (includes members of H.M.							
Forces stationed in the area)	...	...	...	...	...	...	22,210
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,287
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£69,737
Sum represented by a rd. Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£275

NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN EAST KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951.

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Scarlet Fever	21	32	23	64	4
Diphtheria	3	2	—	—	—
Measles	430	352	28	219	357
Whooping Cough	53	109	23	118	123
Acute Pneumonia	10	7	1	6	23
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	1	5	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	8	4	1	61	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—	—	1
Dysentery	2	1	—	1	—
Chicken Pox	8	9	1	—	—
Malaria	5	2	—	1	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	9
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	542	520	82	471	522

NUMBER AND CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1951.

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	2	4
" other	1	—	1
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other Infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	—	2	2
" " lung, bronchus	2	—	2
" " breast	—	—	—
" " uterus	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	6	15
Diabetes	1	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	17	20	37
Coronary disease, angina	12	11	23
Hypertension with heart disease	8	9	17
Other heart diseases	10	12	22
Other circulatory disease	5	2	7
Influenza	2	1	3
Pneumonia	2	—	2
Bronchitis	6	4	10
Other disease of respiratory system ...	1	2	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	3	5
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	11	14	25
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1
All other accidents	6	1	7
Suicide	—	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
All causes	103	91	194

INFECTIOUS DISEASES—ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS.

Age Groups	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Poliomyelitis	Erysipelas	Paratyphoid Fever	Malaria	Food Poisoning	Puerperal Pyrexia
0—1	...	7	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—2	...	24	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—3	...	42	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3—4	...	39	15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
4—5	...	34	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	...	180	44	2	1	—	—	—	8	—
10—15	...	16	5	1	1	—	1	—	1	—
15—20	...	7	1	1	5	1	—	1	—	—
20—35	...	6	1	—	8	1	—	—	—	—
35—45	...	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
45—65	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	...	—	—	—	5	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	...	357	123	4	23	2	1	1	9	1

NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN
EAST KESTIVEN RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1951.

	Civilian Cases	Service Cases	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	3	1	2
Diphtheria	...	—	—	—
Measles	...	351	6	—
Whooping Cough	...	123	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	...	23	—	2
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	1	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	2	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	1	—	1
Malaria	...	—	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever	...	1	—	1
Food Poisoning	...	9	—	—

BIRTH RATES. DEATH RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING 1951.

POPULATION 1951. (Registrar-General's Figure). Home Population 22,210.

Comparability Factors:—Births 1.17, Deaths 1.10.

No. of Live Births	{ Male Female		Legiti- mate.	Total.	No. of Still Births	{ Male Female		Legiti- mate.	Total.	No. of Deaths	{ Male Female	

...	193	161	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	198	166	5	198	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	103
...	354	364	10	364	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	194

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE. E.K.R.D.C. 24.16	{ Male Female		Legiti- mate	Total	E.K.R.D.C. 19.17	England & Wales. 15.5	E.K.R.D.C. 9.60	England & Wales. 12.5
				
...
...	8	...	...	...	...

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE. E.K.R.D.C. 24.16	{ Male Female		Legiti- mate	Total	E.K.R.D.C. 19.17	England & Wales. 15.5	E.K.R.D.C. 9.60	England & Wales. 12.5
				
...
...	8	...	...	...	...

As the age and sex distribution of the population in different areas materially affects both the Birth and Death Rates of these areas comparability factors are used in order that fairer comparisons can be made when comparing rates with those of other areas. Such comparability factors have been used in ascertaining the above statistics.

Crude Rates are as follows:—
 Death Rate 8.73
 Birth Rate 16.38
 Infantile Mortality Rate 21.97

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1951.

Age Periods		NEW CASES				DEATHS			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
20	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
35	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
45	1	2	—	—	2	—	—
55	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals		...	6	5	1	—	2	2	1

CANCER DEATHS.

(Taken from the Return of Deaths to the Sanitary Authority).

Age		Males	Females	Colon	Uterus	Stomach	Rectum	Breast	Misc.
Under 50	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
50—60	...	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
60—70	...	6	2	—	—	—	4	—	4
70—80	...	2	4	—	1	—	2	—	3
Over 80	...	1	2	—	—	2	1	—	—
		11	9	—	2	2	8	—	8

VITAL STATISTICS, 1951.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1951.

Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

		East Kesteven Rural District	England & Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admin. County
		Rates per 1,000 Home Population				
Births :						
Live Births ...	...	19.17	15.5	17.3	16.7	17.8
Still Births ...	...	0.11	0.36	0.45	0.38	0.37
Deaths :						
All Causes ...	...	9.60	12.5	13.4	12.5	13.1
Typhoid and paratyphoid ...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping cough ...	...	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Diphtheria ...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis ...	...	0.25	0.31	0.37	0.31	0.38
Influenza ...	...	0.15	0.38	0.36	0.38	0.23
Smallpox ...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis		0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia ...	...	0.10	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.61
Notifications (Corrected) :						
Typhoid fever ...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid fever ...	...	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Meningococcal infection ...	...	0.00	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03
Scarlet fever ...	...	0.18	1.11	1.20	1.20	1.10
Whooping cough ...	...	5.53	3.87	3.62	4.00	3.11
Diphtheria ...	...	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01
Erysipelas ...	...	0.04	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.15
Smallpox ...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	...	16.07	14.07	13.93	14.82	14.64
Pneumonia ...	...	1.03	0.99	0.04	0.96	0.72
polioencephalitis)						
Acute poliomyelitis (including						
Paralytic ...	...	0.09	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
Non-paralytic ...	...	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02
Food poisoning ...	...	0.40	0.13	0.15	0.08	0.23

	East Kesteven Rural District	England & Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admin. County
Deaths :			Rates per 1,000	Live Births	
All causes under 1 year of age ...	24.16	29.6(a)	33.9	27.6	26.4
Enteritis & diarrhoea under two years of age ...	0.00	1.4	1.6	1.0	0.7
Notifications (Corrected) :			Rates per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births		
Puerperal fever and pyrexia ...	2.73	10.66	13.77	8.08	14.90

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales.

International List No. and cause	East Kesteven Rural District	Rates per 1000 (Live & Still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
A115 Sepsis of pregnancy childbirth and the puerperium ...	0.00	0.10	0.00
A116 { Abortion with toxæmia ...	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium ...	0.00	0.24	0.00
A117 Haemorrhage of pregnancy and the puerperium ...	0.00	0.13	0.00
A118 Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia ...	0.00	0.05	4
A119 Abortion with sepsis ...	0.00	0.09	7
A120 Other complications of preg- nancy, child birth and the puerperium ...	0.00	0.18	0.00

(a) Per 1,000 related live births.

Public Health Department,
18 Northgate,
SLEAFORD.

August, 1952.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
EAST KESTIVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the work and activities of the Sanitary Inspector's Department for the year 1951.

The provision of new housing accommodation is a matter which, quite rightly, continues to receive the constant attention of the Council, but at the present time tends to overshadow the important duties being carried out by your sanitary officers. This new accommodation alone, will not solve the Housing problem and urgent attention must be given to the repair and reconditioning of the many dwellings in the district rapidly deteriorating through lack of proper maintenance.

The provision of piped water supplies and adequate sewerage in your district are matters which are constantly receiving your attention and it is to be regretted that through national and economic difficulties, progress in this direction is necessarily slow. The general public, however, should be made aware that the Council are doing all in their power to press for the successful completion of these schemes.

The work of the department continues to function smoothly and efficiently and the many routine but essential tasks performed by the department are continually being carried out "unsung" and in many instances unheard of. It is surprising at the number of people who imagine that the sanitary officer spends most of his

time examining drains and doing a number of other unpleasant but necessary tasks, when in fact there is hardly a function in the whole wide field of environmental sanitation that does not come within the purview of the public health department.

It is pleasing to record my appreciation of the loyalty and efficiency of the public health staff and of the workmen under the control of the department. To the Clerk of the Council and his deputy, I am, particularly indebted for their advice and assistance so freely given; and to all other officials I record my sincere thanks for the co-operation and pleasant relations that exist between all departments.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have to thank you for your continued interest and the support you have shewn in my work, and in conclusion I can say with all sincerity, that "I am proud to be associated with such a progressive local authority as the East Kesteven Rural District Council."

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. A. F. SAVILLE,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The inadequate sewerage of the district and the inefficient treatment of the sewage, or, in the majority of parishes the lack of treatment, continues to give rise to serious complaints. The sewerage of the majority of parishes in the area consist of archaic and chaotic odds and ends of sewers originally intended for surface water only, and are quite inadequate and unsatisfactory to take the volume and type of sewage now being disposed of. The inadequate size and the construction of the septic tanks on some of these sewers offer no satisfactory means of disposal, particularly during peak periods and heavy rainfall, when solids can be seen discharging into dykes and watercourses. It does not require a chemical examination to decide whether a stream is polluted by solids when one can see the sewage flowing into it.

Nothing will stretch indefinitely and it is obvious that in the case of Ruskington, Billingham and Heckington the sewerage has been stretched to the point of failure.

The provision of new houses and the conversions and improvements being carried out only aggravate this problem, and the provision of septic tanks at private houses is a temporary expedient, but in my opinion is not consistent with real sanitary progress, except perhaps in the case of isolated dwellings.

Delivery of a 800 gallon Karrier Yorkshire cesspool emptying machine was received during the year, and there is no doubt that the frequent emptying of the septic tanks and cesspools etc., in the district has to some extent alleviated the nuisances caused by the unsatisfactory sewerage arrangements prevailing in the area. The Council continues to give frequent attention to the many foul sewer dykes in the district but this regular cleansing only temporarily alleviates the continuing nuisances arising.

The construction of adequate sewerage and sewage disposal plants should not be divorced from the provision of piped water supplies and if any real sanitary progress is to be made then it is absolutely essential that these services should progress together; for what goes in as water comes out as sewage.

Although approval in principle was received during 1949 in respect of schemes for the re-sewering of the villages of Ruskington, Billingham, Heckington and Great Hale, and tenders were invited during the year in respect of the Billingham and Heckington schemes, starting dates have not been awarded by the Ministry. It has been said that sewers do not find much favour with politicians!

Some little progress, however, was made during the year as a start was made on the Cranwell sewerage scheme.

EXAMINATION OF SEWAGE EFFLUENTS FROM SEWAGE WORKS.

THIS EFFLUENT CONTAINS PER 100,000 PARTS

Where Sample Taken From and Date.	Total Solids Dried at 100°C.	Suspended Matter Dried at 100°C.	Chlorides as Chlorine	Nitrate Nitrogen	Nitrite Nitrogen	Free and Saline Ammonia	Albuminoid Ammonia	Oxygen absorbed from N/80		PH Value	5 days Biological Oxygen Demand at 65°F.	5 days Incubation Test at 80°F.	Dissolved Oxygen	Percentage Oxygen Saturation at 14°C.
								KMnO ₄ in 3 minutes	in 4 hrs. @ 80°F.					
Martin Sewage Works 31.1.51. (a)	94.00	0.40	8.87	1.25	0.018	0.0749	0.1070	0.19	0.82	7.90	1.20	Stable	—	—
Didby Sewage Works (Camp) 31.1.51. (a)	107.00	0.50	7.10	1.30	0.018	0.428	0.0455	0.10	0.44	7.50	0.70	Stable	—	—
Martin Sewage Works 30.3.51. (a)	78.00	0.50	5.68	0.54	0.012	0.0455	0.0535	0.22	0.92	8.00	1.50	Stable	—	—
Didby Sewage Works (Pinfold Estate) 30.3.51. (a)	101.00	0.50	6.04	2.30	0.050	0.6554	0.0880	0.12	0.85	7.70	1.40	Stable	—	—
Cranwell (Camp) 30.3.51. (B1)	68.00	4.80	6.75	0.66	0.050	0.749	0.180	0.29	0.49	7.40	1.90	Stable	—	—
Cranwell (Camp) 17.5.51. (B2)	66.00	4.40	6.04	2.08	0.04	0.0060	0.1940	0.39	1.82	7.00	2.20	Stable	—	—
Scopwick Beck receiving Didby Camp effluent 17.5.51. (C)	51.00	0.21	3.91	0.60	0.00	0.0016	0.0032	0.008	0.036	7.30	0.30	Stable	0.909	90.0
Scopwick Beck receiving Didby Camp effluent 18.7.51. (C)	51.00	0.20	4.26	0.78	0.0004	0.0056	0.0088	0.14	0.03	7.30	0.42	Stable	0.760	85.0

- (a) At the time of sampling these effluents satisfied the accepted standards of purity and were of suitable chemical quality for free discharge into inland waters.
- (B1) This effluent did not satisfy the generally accepted standards in regard to suspended matter, albuminoid ammonia, and oxygen absorbed from N/80 KMnO₄ in 4 hours and was not therefore of suitable chemical quality for free discharge into inland waters.
- (B2) This effluent did not satisfy the generally accepted standards in regard to suspended matter, albuminoid ammonia, oxygen absorbed and 5 days Biological Oxygen demand and was not therefore of suitable chemical quality for free discharge into inland waters.
- Copies of the 2 reports on effluents reported under (B1) and (B2) have forwarded to the Ministry of Local Government and Housing to make representation to Air Ministry.
- (c) At the time of sampling these waters were amply oxygenated and showed little evidence of organic pollution.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The conversion of earth closets to watercarriage continues to be slow and in only isolated cases have owners of tenanted houses been persuaded to improve the existing closet accommodation and the majority of conversions carried out during the year have been carried out by owner-occupiers and the owners of licensed houses.

The majority of the older properties within the district are served by vault closets or privies, which are, to say the least, a very objectionable type of convenience.

It is unfortunately not possible at the present time to put into effect privy conversion work on a large scale owing to the inadequate nature or absence of sewerage works, but as these schemes materialise the Council should seriously consider the replacement of these insanitary earth closets, etc., by water closets at the joint expense of the owner and of the local authority. It is essential, as the Cranwell sewerage scheme progresses, to carry out the conversions under this scheme, since the necessary works are being carried out there to prevent pollution of the water supplies derived from the Lincolnshire Limestone.

The difficulties in finding labour to empty vault closets, septic tanks, etc., and to the necessarily offensive proceedings when such work was carried out, has been to some considerable extent relieved by the Council purchasing a Karrier Yorkshire cesspool emptying machine. Private individuals can hire the machine and operators for a small charge. I consider this scheme to be a public health service and in my opinion should be readily available to all without charge, or at least one free service per year should be given.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The almost complete lack of complaints received by the department in connection with this service confirms that the collection and disposal of refuse continues to function satisfactorily, and that generally, the frequency of collection appears to meet the needs of the district; the larger Parishes, Ruskington, Billingham and Heckington being serviced weekly, and the remainder of the district fortnightly. The present "kerbside" collection of refuse continues to provide a welcome service to the majority. Occasionally requests are made for the weekly service to be extended to other parishes and for a "carry out" system of collection to be adopted. Obviously, from a public health point of view there can

be no objections to these requests and it is the ideal to which we should aim. At the present time however, in view of the fact that additional labour and vehicles would be required together with increased running costs and the high mileage and long carries necessary in such a large rural district, such improvements of the existing scheme would impose a heavy financial burden upon the ratepayers. Difficulties are also experienced in the recruitment of suitable workmen for this type of work. In the case of persons not physically capable of carrying out their own dustbins, the workmen do so on request.

The disposal of the refuse is carried out by controlled tipping at tips situate at Ruskington, Billingham, Martin, South Rauceby, Cranwell and Aswarby. Over 3,000 tons of refuse was disposed of by this method during the year. The difficulties experienced in this work are two-fold; the almost complete lack of suitable covering material readily available and the indiscriminate tipping of refuse by unknown persons. The latter practice is not now so frequent as in the past. Several tips are now completely fenced and tipping is only permitted by private persons at certain times or on request, when your workmen are engaged on the tips. All future tipping sites should be carefully chosen and adequately fenced. The practice of indiscriminate tipping of refuse, litter, etc., on verges and in dykes and ditches is a matter which can only be controlled effectively by immediate action under the byelaws for good rule and government. All tips have been frequently treated with a suitable tip dressing containing D.D.T. and no infestations were observed. Your rodent operators also pay particular attention to these tips by visiting same frequently and carrying out any necessary treatments.

The vehicles engaged on this work during the year were one "Scammel" mechanical horse and two locally adapted "Bedford" lorries. I have always held the opinion that the purchasing of converted or makeshift commercial vehicles, although cheaper initially, is a bad policy when a special type of vehicle for the particular job it is expected to perform, is readily available. The Council after considering the frequent adverse criticism by your officers regarding these vehicles and the lack of suitable facilities for the garaging, maintenance and cleansing of the vehicles which is essential to the efficient running of the service, appointed a Sub-Committee to consider the whole question of public cleansing. The Council on the recommendation of the Sub-Committee purchased two model CK3 Karrier Municipal refuse collection vehicles 3/4 ton low loading chassis on 27 x 6 heavy duty pneumatic tyres, twin rear and spare wheels with 27/80 horse power, six cylinder petrol engine, 12 volt electric lighting set, self starter, etc.,

mounted with fully enclosed double cab and 10 cubic yards capacity steel refuse body with semi-circular sliding steel dust covers, double opening rear doors and power hydraulic end tipping gear. Plans for the acquisition of land and the provision of a suitable depot were in hand at the end of the year.

The provision of protective clothing consisting of sou'wester, waterproof coat and trousers was welcomed by your employees. These are essential, since your workmen carry out their duties under all conditions and are not merely trained to disappear in inclement weather; this consideration might well be extended to cover the provision of suitable overalls. The provision of washing facilities at the proposed new depot is another consideration for the welfare of your employees which should not be lost sight of.

The staff engaged on this service was as follows:— 1 Foreman Driver, 2 Driver Loaders and five Collectors. One man was engaged baling paper at the salvage depot and the amounts of salvage collected and disposed of during the year was as follows:—

Waste Paper (132 tons 12 cwts), consisting of:

	tons	cwts.	qrs.	
Mixed waste paper ...	71	8	3	£2,149 2 7
Books and magazines ...	10	8	3	
Fibreboard containers ...	24	6	2	
Newsprint ...	26	8	4	
Bonus for increased collections ...	...	...	...	£20 0 0
Other salvage materials (rags, sacking, metals, etc.) ...	...	...	...	£20 15 0
Total ...	...	...	...	<hr/>£2,189 17 7 <hr/>

The 132 tons 12 cwts. of waste paper collected during 1951 shows an increase of 77.45% over the previous year. This was a creditable achievement, particularly in view of the fact that several large sources of supply were not available to the Council during the year, as the owners were selling direct to the merchants. Further, the increased collection was no doubt due to the Council's bonus scheme and to the publicity campaign carried out by your officers including the use of public address equipment and the distribution of appeals to householders. The assistance of the local press was particularly valuable during the campaign.

The Council during the previous year gave consideration to the difficulties in finding labour to carry out the cleansing of cesspools, septic tanks and vault closets and to the necessarily offensive proceedings when such work was carried out. An 800 gallon Karrier-Yorkshire cesspool emptying vehicle was purchased which commenced operations at the end of January, 1951. This machine is manned by two workmen and has proved to be most valuable to the Council, and also to private householders who can obtain the service of the machine for a small charge.

During the year the following work was carried out by this machine:—

Emptying of vaults, cesspools, septic tanks, etc.

	Private.				Council.
Septic tanks and cesspools emptied ...	120				632
Vault closets emptied ...	89				7
Wells emptied ...	4				—
Cellars emptied ...	1				—
Totals ...	214				639

£331 17s. 6d. was received in respect of work done for private individuals.

1,235,600 gallons of effluent was disposed of by spraying on agricultural lands during the year. The initial difficulties at the commencement of the scheme were soon overcome.

The sum of £34 10s. 0d. was realised by the sale of effluent to one particular farmer who has realised the manurial value of this material. The co-operation of farmers and landowners in allowing the effluent to be sprayed on their land has been much appreciated, and there is no doubt that without their willing co-operation, the operation of this scheme would have proved to be a costly one.

RODENT CONTROL.

The coming into operation of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, brought with it increased powers and duties to the Council and it was found necessary to appoint another rodent operator during the year to cope with the increased amount of work. The arrangements, whereby the Agricultural Executive Committee endeavoured to encourage farmers and landowners to enter into contracts with them for the necessary work of disinfection, continued during the year and the Agricultural Executive Committee continue to notify the Local Authority as to the areas under treatment. This co-operation has been much appreciated, but there are far too many individuals who are not treating this important public health work as seriously as it should be. There are gaps in this dual administrative role and I consider that the work of rodent control should be the sole responsibility of one authority alone. The lack of co-operation on the part of the general public in carrying out their legal obligation of notifying infestations to the department is noticeable; possibly due to ignorance of the requirements of the Act, despite the publicity given to it nationally and locally.

The enforcement of the Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks Regulations, 1950, which came into operation on the 24th July, 1950, and superceded the Rats Orders, 1941 and 1942, has proved to be most difficult. These regulations are in far too many cases not being complied with, and it is disappointing to record the lack of support in ensuring compliance with some. It is realised that there are objections to these regulations in this area, but until such time as any amendment, if any, is made by statute it is the statutory duty of the local authority to see that the regulations are complied with, and your officers who are chagrined with the responsibility of administering these duties must have the support which is necessary to carry out their duties effectively. Publicity seems to have had little effect and the only effective measures likely to ensure compliance is punitive action.

During the year your two rodent operators carried out their duties efficiently, and regular attention was given to all Council property, tips, etc.

The following figures show to some extent the prevalence of rats and mice and the measures of control taken by the Local Authority:—

PREVALENCE OF RATS AND MICE:

Number of Properties Inspected as a result of:

(a) Notification	...	...	...	...	430
(b) Otherwise	...	...	...	...	1,187

Number of Properties Infested by Rats:

(a) Major Infestations	...	...	...	...	39
(b) Minor Infestations	...	...	...	...	1,201

Number of Properties Infested by Mice	...	Nil
--	-----	-----

Measures of Control by Local Authority:

Number of Properties Inspected	...	...	1,617
Number of Properties Treated	...	...	1,240
Number of "block" control schemes carried out			47

PETROLEUM ACTS.

Number of Petroleum licences on register at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	96
Number of new Petroleum licences issued during the year	...	...	...	...	...	14
Number of Carbide of Calcium licences on register at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	1
Amount of Petroleum stored under licences in force:	68,750	galls.				
Amount of Carbide of Calcium stored under licences in force	...	...	...	...	...	112 lbs.
Number of Inspections made in connection with the above licences	...	...	...	...	...	43

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

Thirteen defects were found in factories in this area, two being brought to the attention of the department by H.M. Inspector of Factories. Compliance with the notices were effected without recourse to statutory action in all cases.

OUTWORKERS PREMISES.

One notification was received regarding premises used by outworkers. This was in connection with a female worker employed in the manufacture of furniture trimmings. On inspection the premises were found to be satisfactory in all respects.

RAG FLOCK ACT.

There are no premises in the Council's area requiring the attention of your officers under this Act.

SMÖKE ABATEMENT.

Atmospheric pollution gives little cause for concern in this area and no complaints were received by the department during the year, and in no case was any nuisance observed under this heading.

PUBLIC VEHICLES.

No action was necessary during the year in respect of filthy or verminous public vehicles and as reported in previous years it is pleasing to note that most operators disinfect their vehicles at regular intervals.

CANAL BOATS.

No canal boats are registered with this Authority, therefore no action was necessary.

DANGEROUS STRUCTURES.

Four dangerous structures were dealt with under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936. In all cases demolition or reconstruction was carried out without recourse to statutory action.

SPRAYING OF BECKS, ETC.

At the request of the County Medical Officer the Scopwick and Digby Beck, and the the vegetation along same was sprayed with an aqueous solution of D.D.T. The cesspool emptier utilised for this work was most effective.

FILTHY AND VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Four houses were disinfected during the year, one in respect of bed bugs and three for fleas. In one case action was taken under Section 83 of the Public Health Act, 1936, upon the report of your Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SCHOOLS.

Some little improvement in the conversion of earth closets has been effected during the year and it is hoped that conversion schemes at such premises will be speeded up, although the lack of adequate sewerage no doubt aggravates this problem. The provision of a cesspool emptier has to some extent relieved the nuisances arising from the conservancy system of sanitation existing at most schools in the area. The provision of modern sanitary accommodation and washing facilities is essential, particularly where children partake of meals at schools. The teaching of personal hygiene is not likely to impress children who lack the essential sanitary facilities to practice same.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

The number of moveable dwellings in the area at the end of the year was 22. The majority of these dwellings are of a proprietary type and are no doubt providing reasonable accommodation for the occupants. Little trouble has been experienced in respect of the individual isolated sites, and the Council have been satisfied in respect of the sanitary arrangements and provision of water supply, etc., before granting the necessary licences.

Some difficulty has however been experienced in respect of two sites and the full co-operation of the owners of the sites has not been forthcoming. I consider that there is a need for a properly equipped and supervised caravan site in Cranwell village, and that the Council should consider the desirability of acquiring such a site. The acquisition of other suitable accommodation is not readily available for these particular individuals in this area, and as we are not in a position to provide housing accommodation for them, surely it is not unreasonable to provide them with a suitable site.

SQUATTERS.

At the end of the year there were twenty-three families of squatters in the area occupying what were formerly military hutments. The majority of these families are living under very unsatisfactory conditions. The Council are concerned at the problems arising out of this irregular occupation of these hutments, and take such steps as they are able when opportunities arise to prevent reoccupation. There is no easy solution to this difficulty with the housing problem so acute in this district.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The meat supply of the Rural Area comes from the central distribution depot which is situate in the Sleaford Urban District and all meat is inspected by the officers of the Urban District before delivery into the Rural Area.

Improvements in the handling of the meat locally was noticeable, but complaints had to be made during the year in respect of the handling before arrival in this Council's district. Protective clothing is worn by the men engaged in this work.

No serious infringements of the Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, were observed, although advisory action was necessary in some cases.

During the year the East Kesteven and Sleaford branch of the National Association of Local Government Officers held a Local Government exhibition supported by the two local authorities. This exhibition was particularly well planned and the public health section played a prominent part in the exhibition. The public health staff of the two authorities co-operated in putting on a first class show and devoted a good deal of exhibition space and time to food hygiene. All food handlers in the two districts were invited to attend this exhibition and special sessions were devoted to film shows and lectures. The attendance at these sessions was poor and certainly did not reflect any great interest on the part of food handlers, generally. However, the majority of the staff of the only large food preparing factory in the district attended these sessions, reflecting credit on the management of this concern.

This "clean food" business is not a "fad", neither does it require elaborate equipment and fittings but is a matter of sound common sense. Personal hygiene, clean hygienic methods and equipment and a sense of responsibility to the customer is all that is required. One of the most important single rules to be observed in the prevention of food poisoning is the washing of hands after using the toilet. One wonders how often this advice is disregarded by indifferent food handlers. Employers should not only draw the attention of their employees to the necessity for clean handling of food and personal hygiene, but should insist that a high standard is maintained.

9 cases of food poisoning were notified to the Council during the year.

The following articles of foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption after inspection by officers of the department.

Type of Foodstuff.							Weight lbs.
46 tins	Soup	...	...	...	...	...	46
33 tins	Luncheon Meat			...	...	...	21
7 tins	Meat Loaf	...	...	...	...	...	5
14 tins	Evaporated Milk			...	...	...	14
5 tins	Cooked Ham	...	...	...	...	...	43
Currants	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Cheshire	Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	35
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	...	76
Total							<hr/> 290 <hr/>

The butter was returned through trade channels to the Ministry of Food Salvage Organisation.

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING.

The County Council as Food and Drugs Authority are responsible for the sampling of Food and Drugs within the Council's Area and I am indebted to Mr. E. T. Hawley, D.P.A.(Oxon.), the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, for the following information regarding this work.

Mr. Hawley states that the County Council is guided in the main by the Ministry's suggested sampling target of 3 per 1,000 population. So far as our own area is concerned, he regards the town of Sleaford as being essential to the needs of a large proportion of the inhabitants of the East Kesteven Rural District for it has a weekly market and offers shopping facilities which exist nowhere else in the area. He considers therefore that details of sampling done in the combined administrative areas of Sleaford and East Kesteven would be more illuminating than figures relating to East Kesteven alone. Since the population of the combined area is approximately 28,000 the "target" is 84 samples. In fact

85 samples were obtained, the articles sampled being:—

Aspirin tablets	2	Jelly (table)	3
Blackcurrant pastilles	1	Liquid paraffin B.P.	1
Brawn	1	Marmalade (diabetic)	1
Cake Mixture	1	Paste (meat)	1
Cheese (processed)	1	„ (fish)	1
Chocolate spread	1	Peanut butter	1
Coconut cream	1	Ruby wine	1
Condensed cream	2	Saccharin tablets	1
Crab	1	Sausages (Vienna)	1
Desiccated coconut	1	„ (beef and pork)	2
Ginger (ground)	1	Saveloy	1
Glace cherries	1	Soft drinks	2
Grape juice	1	Vinegar (malt)	1
Health salts	1	Milk	45
Ice Cream	7		
		TOTAL :	85

The Department has a milk-testing laboratory where informal portions of all milk samples are tested, but all doubtful milks and all samples of other foodstuffs and drugs are submitted to the Public Analyst at Nottingham.

Of the samples submitted for analysis, by far the greater proportion was satisfactory, exceptions being:—

No. 166 (Ice Cream) purchased from a manufacturer. This sample was deficient in fat to the extent of 72% and legal proceedings were instituted. At Sleaford Petty Sessional Court the vendor explained that he left much of the actual work of manufacture to assistants, and quite obviously too little fat was included in the batch of ice cream from which the sample was obtained. He was fined £5.

No. 172 (Ice Cream) purchased from a manufacturer. This sample was deficient in fat to the extent of 30% and the vendor was cautioned. A subsequent sample from this source was found to be satisfactory.

Nos. 287 & 307 (Milk) purchased from a producer-retailer. These samples were from a milk-seller whose dairy forms part of a large country house let off in flats. Milk in one receptacle was found to contain on one occasion 7% added water, and on the second occasion 6%. Other receptacles containing larger quantities of milk were free from adulteration. In view of all the circumstances, the vendor was cautioned.

No. 360 (Milk) purchased from a producer-retailer. This sample contained 16% of added water and legal proceedings were instituted. The vendor was unable to give any explanation of the adulteration and was fined £5 was £3 3s. costs.

No. 385 (Pork Sausages) purchased from a butcher. These were 8% deficient in pork meat and the vendor was cautioned.

REGISTRATION OF FOOD PREMISES.

The number of premises used in connection with the manufacture or sale of ice cream, or preserved food, etc., and registered in accordance with Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are as follows:—

Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted meat, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	10
Fish Frying premises	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ice Cream Manufacturers and Vendors	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ice Cream Vendors	...	...	...	...	...	29

Several improvements have been effected in respect of such premises during the year and two such premises were reconstructed to the requirements of your officers. No recourse to statutory action was necessary, although several warnings were given. Generally these businesses have been carried on without any serious cause for complaint.

PUBLIC HOUSES, RESTAURANT AND CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS.

Further improvements have been effected in respect of licensed houses but a good deal remains to be done, particularly in respect of the smaller premises in the district, not only in regard to the sanitary arrangements, but of equal importance, the facilities for the washing of glasses, etc. Two catering establishments were reconstructed during the year to the satisfaction of your officers.

ICE CREAM.

The number of samples of ice cream taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination (Methylene Blue Test) was thirty and they were graded as follows:—

Provisional Grade One	...	...	...	...	17
Provisional Grade Two	...	...	...	...	3
Provisional Grade Three	...	...	...	...	4
Provisional Grade Four	...	...	...	...	6

The number of manufacturers in the district was reduced from four to one during the year, due to the expense of providing suitable equipment to comply with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations. The remaining producer purchased such heat treatment equipment. Unfortunately the majority of the samples placed in provisional grades three and four were manufactured by this producer. It was necessary to examine the whole process of manufacture and the equipment, with the co-operation of the producer himself and the makers of the plant. It was observed that strict compliance with the rules issued by the makers of the equipment had not been complied with and the machine had been grossly over-oiled. Further samples taken after this action gave satisfactory results. It cannot be stressed too strongly that superficial cleanliness is not sufficient in dealing with such foodstuffs as ice cream which are readily susceptible to contamination and it is absolutely essential that the utmost care and attention must be given to the handling and sterilisation of equipment, and to scrupulous personal cleanliness if consistently satisfactory reports are to be expected.

All other retailers in the area sell only prepacked ice cream, manufactured outside the Council's area. All have a suitable type of conservator and little trouble was experienced with these vendors during the year.

The mobile ice cream vans inspected during the year were satisfactory, and all inspected had washing facilities provided, with the exception of one, in which case representation was made to the owners.

The manufacturers and retailers concerned have been notified of the results of samples taken and in the case of producers outside the District who retail in the District themselves and through their agents, copies of the Bacteriologist's reports have been sent to the Sanitary Officers of the Districts in which ice cream is manufactured.

In addition to the samples reported above, eight samples were submitted for examination in connection with paratyphoid cases in the district and it is pleasing to report that they could not be implicated in any way.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Many of the duties formerly the responsibility of the Local Authority under this heading were taken over by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in October, 1949. The primary duty of

the Local Authority now remains the registration and supervision of distributors and dairies, other than dairy farms.

The following licences were issued by the Local Authority during the year:—

Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dealers—Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Supplementary Licences:							
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

The following table shows the number of samples of pasteurised milks (including those submitted by the County Health Inspector) which have been examined at the Public Health Laboratory:—

Sample submitted for	No. of Samples Submitted	RESULT	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Methylene Blue Examination	45	34	11
Phosphatase Test	45	33	12
Bacillus Tuberculosis	5	Positive	Negative
		1	4
Brucella Abortus	5	—	5

In six cases the maximum storage temperature of pasteurised milks was over 65°F. and the tests were void.

Now that facilities are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Lincoln, under the County Scheme for biological examination of milk, it is intended to submit samples for such examination more regularly. The Laboratory are able to take two samples each week from this Authority.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

There has been no change in existing arrangements which satisfactorily meet all needs.

Bacteriological
and Biological— The Public Health Laboratory Service,
County Hospital,
St. Anne's Road,
Lincoln.

Chemical— W. W. Taylor, Esq., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.,
Public Analyst and Consulting Chemist,
1, Regent Street,
Nottingham.

The numbers of various samples submitted for examination are as follows:—

Bacteriological—	Water	...	...	...	...	...	84
	Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	38
	Milk	...	...	...	...	...	50
	Sewage Effluents	...	...	...	...	...	8
	Faeces	...	...	...	...	...	45
	Urine	...	...	...	...	...	14
	Sputum	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Foodstuffs	...	...	...	...	...	4
	Vomit	...	...	...	...	...	1
Biological—	Milk	...	...	...	...	...	5
Chemical—	Water	...	...	...	...	...	24
	Sewage Effluents	...	...	...	...	...	8
	Milk	...	...	...	...	...	2

WATER SUPPLIES.

Occupiers of houses using unsatisfactory water supplies were advised to boil same before using for human consumption and domestic use. Owing to grossly polluted private supplies in the parishes of Cranwell, Brauncewell and South Rauceby the Council continued to cart water in tanks to these areas. The Cranwell water scheme was completed during the year and action taken under Section 138 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as amended by Section 30(3) of the Water Act, 1945, requesting the owners of houses without a piped supply to provide therein an internal supply of water in pipes from the new main. Thirty-one houses had been provided with a piped supply by the end of the year. Similar action was taken in respect of private supplies to houses at Kirkby-la-Thorpe, Blankney and Culverthorpe.

Unsatisfactory bacteriological reports of the Heckington supply were obtained on occasions during the year, and the probable cause was the high incidence of burst mains during the period. Particular attention was paid to the chlorination of this supply and since that time satisfactory reports have been received.

The following progress in connection with the water supplies was made during the year. A booster was fitted to the Helpringham and Dorrington Fen supplies and an electric pump ordered for the Ruskington supply. A borehole test was made on the Air Ministry borehole at Drove Lane, Sleaford, and tenders were invited in connection with the first part of the Council's Regional Water Supply Scheme. Certain valves and fittings in connection with this scheme were delivered during the year.

The following table shows the number of houses and estimated population in each parish of the Rural District, and the number of houses provided with a public supply of water. Asgarby and Howell, Brauncewell, Byard's Leap, Culverthorpe and Kelby, North Rauceby, Roxholme, Silk Willoughby, South Rauceby and Temple Bruer are supplied from private sources.

Parishes	No. of Houses at 31.12.51	Population. Civilian Estimated	Water Supply			
			No. of Standposts	No. Paying Domestic Water Rate	No. Not on Public Supply	
Anwick	76	308	5	74	2	
Asgarby & Howell ...	36	127	—	—	36	
Ashby & Bloxholm ...	95	266	—	73	22	
Aswarby & Swarby ...	55	157	—	12	43	
Aunsby & Dembleby ...	51	152	5	39	12	
Billinghay	506	1,436	8	506	—	
Blankney	149	463	1	55	94	
Brauncewell	31	108	—	—	3	
Burton Pedwardine ...	43	191	8	43	—	
Cranwell & Byards Leap	112	506	—	107	5	
Culverthorpe & Kelby	37	113	—	—	37	
Digby	140	454	6	136	4	
Dogdyke	84	317	4	4	—	
Dorrington	113	384	8	104	9	
Ewerby & Evedon ...	112	349	12	109	3	
Great Hale	181	559	9	175	6	
Heckington	583	1,692	15	574	9	
Helpringham	227	714	26	211	16	
Kirkby Laythorpe ...	88	267	8	79	9	
Leasingham	156	499	8	137	19	
Little Hale	65	271	3	51	14	
Martin	317	1,110	6	315	2	
Newton & Haceby ...	51	173	8	43	8	
North Kyme	182	499	8	180	2	
North Rauceby	52	245	—	—	52	
Osbournby	137	364	11	134	3	
Rowston	49	174	3	44	5	
Roxholme	29	101	—	—	29	
Ruskington	564	1,682	—	582	36	
Scopwick	126	487	10	119	7	
Scredington	84	287	3	68	16	
Silk Willoughby ...	51	197	—	—	51	
South Kyme	108	409	9	108	—	
South Rauceby	82	250	—	—	82	
Swaton	74	295	9	60	14	
Temple Bruer	34	264	—	—	34	
Threekingham	70	216	4	39	31	
Timberland	170	565	5	170	—	
Walcot, B.	144	500	6	144	—	
Walcot, F.	29	108	3	23	6	
Wilsford	139	451	9	121	18	

It is anticipated that the Ministry will give a starting date for the first part of the Council's Regional Water Supply Scheme during 1952, which by the laying of new mains and the sinking of a new bore at Droye Lane, Sleaford, will serve the following villages:— Newton, Walcot (F), Haceby, Threekingham, Osbournby, Aunsby, Dembleby, Spanby, Culverthorpe, Kelby, Swarby, Wilsford, North and South Rauceby, Silk Willoughby and Screddington.

The second part of the Regional Scheme which provides for the completion of the ring main of the Southern area will provide a supply from the same bore as above, to the following areas:— Anwick, Asgarby, Howell, Brauncewell, Burton Pedwardine, Cranwell, Ewerby, Evedon, Great Hale, Heckington, Helpringham, Kirkby-la-Thorpe, Leasingham, Little Hale, Roxholme, Ruskington and Swaton. It is hoped that a commencement of this work will not be long delayed.

A scheme has also been prepared for the Northern area which will provide the following villages with a supply from Scopwick and Ashby de la Launde:— Ashby and Bloxholme, Billingham, Blankney, Digby, Dogdyke, Dorrington, Leasingham, Martin, North Kyme, Rowston, Scopwick, South Kyme, Timberland, and Walcott (B).

These schemes are not only desirable, they are essential if every house in the area is to be provided with a sufficient and wholesome supply of water in pipes in the house, and in this year of 1952, such progress is reasonably expected.

RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER DURING 1951.

Date	Parish	Where Taken	Result
11. 1.51.	Helpringham	Private Supply	Sample sent by Post. It was too late for an examination to be of any value.
16. 1.51.	Kirkby-la-Thorpe	Public Supply	Highly Satisfactory
30. 1.51.	Bacon Factory, Ruskington	Public Supply	Highly Satisfactory
30. 1.51.	Bacon Factory, Ruskington	do.	Highly Satisfactory
21. 2.51.	Ewerby & Evedon	do.	Highly Satisfactory
21. 2.51.	Helpringham	do.	Highly Satisfactory
1. 3.51.	Heckington	do.	Highly Satisfactory
1. 3.51.	Leasingham	do.	Highly Satisfactory
1. 3.51.	Helpringham	Private Supply	No evidence of recent faecal pollution.
8. 3.51.	Dorrington Fen	Public Supply	Satisfactory
8. 3.51.	Dorrington Fen	do.	Highly Satisfactory
15. 3.51.	Helpringham	do.	Unsatisfactory
15. 3.51.	Scopwick	do.	Highly Satisfactory
15. 3.51.	Ruskington	do.	Highly Satisfactory
15. 3.51.	Dorrington	do.	Unsatisfactory
16. 3.51.	Kirkby-la-Thorpe	do.	Satisfactory
16. 3.51.	Sleaford, The Drove	do.	Satisfactory
21. 3.51.	Ruskington	do.	Satisfactory
21. 3.51.	Chapel Hill	do.	Satisfactory
21. 3.51.	Billingham	do.	Satisfactory
21. 3.51.	Digby	do.	Satisfactory
17. 4.51.	Dorrington Village	do.	Highly Satisfactory
17. 4.51.	Kirkby-la-Thorpe	Private Supply	Unsatisfactory
17. 4.51.	Kirkby-la-Thorpe	do.	Unsatisfactory
17. 5.51.	Newton Bar	Public Supply	Satisfactory
17. 5.51.	Scopwick	do.	Satisfactory
17. 5.51.	Heckington	do.	Satisfactory
17. 5.51.	Heckington	do.	Satisfactory
30. 5.51.	Scredington	do.	Satisfactory
30. 5.51.	Great Hale	do.	Satisfactory
12. 6.51.	Cranwell	do.	Highly Satisfactory
12. 6.51.	Aswarby	Private Supply	Unsatisfactory.
4. 7.51.	Culverthorpe	do.	Unsatisfactory; evidence of faecal pollution.
4. 7.51.	South Rauceby	do.	Unsatisfactory
13. 7.51.	Heckington	Public Supply	Unsatisfactory
13. 7.51.	Heckington	do.	Just passable
25. 7.51.	Leasingham	do.	Satisfactory
25. 7.51.	Cranwell	do.	Satisfactory
27. 5.51.	Swaton	do.	Unsatisfactory
25. 7.51.	Helpringham	do.	Satisfactory
7. 8.51.	Heckington	do.	Unsatisfactory; evidence of gross faecal pollution
9. 8.51.	Cranwell Village	Private Supply	Unsatisfactory; evidence of gross faecal pollution.

Date	Parish	Where Taken	Result
13. 8.51.	Dorrington Village	Public Supply	Satisfactory
20. 8.51.	Billinghay	do.	Highly Satisfactory
20. 8.51.	Ruskington	do.	Doubtful
30. 8.51.	Dorrington Fen	do.	Highly Satisfactory
5. 9.51.	Billinghay	do.	Unsatisfactory
11. 9.51.	Heckington	do.	Unsatisfactory; evidence of recent faecal pollution.
11. 9.51.	Heckington	do.	Unsatisfactory; evidence of recent faecal pollution.
11. 9.51.	Heckington Tower	Public Supply	Highly Satisfactory
11. 9.51.	Billinghay	do.	Highly Satisfactory
10. 9.51.	Timberland	do.	Unsatisfactory
13. 9.51.	Heckington	do.	Highly Satisfactory
13. 9.51.	Heckington	do.	Unsatisfactory; evidence of faecal pollution.
14. 9.51.	Dorrington	do.	Highly Satisfactory
14. 9.51.	Dorrington	do.	Highly Satisfactory
18. 9.51.	Heckington	do.	Unsatisfactory
20. 9.51.	Heckington	do.	Doubtful
20. 9.51.	Heckington	do.	Satisfactory
20. 9.51.	Timberland	do.	Satisfactory
20. 9.51.	Scopwick	do.	Satisfactory
20. 9.51.	Wilsford	do.	Unsatisfactory
3.10.51.	Billinghay	do.	Highly Satisfactory
3.10.51.	Timberland	do.	Highly Satisfactory
17.10.51.	Heckington	do.	Satisfactory
17.10.51.	Heckington	do.	Unsatisfactory; evidence of faecal pollution.
17.10.51.	Anwick	do.	Satisfactory
17.10.51.	Great Hale	do.	Unsatisfactory
17.10.51.	Scredington	do.	Satisfactory
17.10.51.	Newton	do.	Satisfactory
17.10.51.	South Rauceby	Private Supply	Unsatisfactory; evidence of recent faecal pollution.
18.10.51.	Scopwick	do.	Unsatisfactory
25.10.51.	Tattershall Bridge	Public Supply	Highly Satisfactory
25.10.51.	Blankney	Private Supply	Most Unsatisfactory; evidence of recent gross faecal pollution
31.10.51.	Heckington	Public Supply	Highly Satisfactory
31.10.51.	Heckington	do.	Highly Satisfactory
8.11.51.	Evedon	do.	Highly Satisfactory
6.11.51.	Knipton Cottages	Private Supply	Unsatisfactory; evidence of faecal pollution.
8.11.51.	Heckington	Public Supply	Highly Satisfactory
8.11.51.	Heckington	do.	Highly Satisfactory
8.11.51.	Ewerby Wath	Private Supply	Unsatisfactory; evidence of faecal pollution.
8.11.51.	East Heckington	Public Supply	Suspicious
18.11.51.	Digby/Scopwick	do.	Highly Satisfactory
18.12.51.	Dorrington	do.	Unsatisfactory

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLIES.

SUPPLY		This sample contains per million parts:—														Heavy Metals	Free Chlorine
		Total Solids Dried at 180° C.	Suspended Matter	Chlorides as Chlorine	Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrate	Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrite	Free Ammonia	Albuminoid Ammonia	Temporary Hardness	Permanent Hardness	Oxygen Absorbed in N/80 KMnO ₄ 4 hrs. from	pH Value	Appearance	Odour	Taste and Colour		
Kirkby-la-Thorpe (Evedon Supply) The Drove, Sleaford Ruskington Chapel Hill (Dorington Fen Supply) Dorington Fen Digby Newton Bar Newton Bar Scopwick Scopwick Helpingham Helpingham Heckington	400.00	Trace	28.40	Absent	0.003	0.060	0.064	205.00	115.00	0.00	7.20	Slightly Turbid	NONE	ABSENT	ABSENT	Normal	
	460.00	Absent	28.40	4.80	0.003	0.012	0.056	195.00	135.00	0.36	7.10	Clear & Bright				Normal	
	390.00	Absent	28.40	Absent	0.003	0.020	0.028	210.00	115.00	0.240	7.20	Clear & Bright				Normal	
	530.00	2.80	99.40	Absent	0.002	0.184	0.136	265.00	0.00	0.00	7.30	Turbid				Taste—Normal Colour—Yellowish-Brown	
	500.00	0.50	99.40	Absent	Absent	0.400	0.200	225.00	0.00	0.160	7.30	Slightly Turbid				Taste—Normal Colour—Slightly Yellow	
	470.00	Absent	32.00	10.00	0.002	0.056	0.048	200.00	115.00	0.320	7.30	Clear & Bright				Normal	
	430.00	Absent	21.30	4.00	Absent	0.004	0.036	187.00	110.00	0.80	7.20	Clear & Bright				Normal	
	440.00	Absent	24.90	5.20	0.001	0.004	0.004	205.00	120.00	0.20	7.30	Clear & Bright				Normal	
	460.00	Absent	32.00	4.80	Absent	0.004	0.024	205.00	145.00	0.16	7.20	Clear & Bright				Normal	
	480.00	Absent	32.00	8.40	Absent	0.004	0.004	210.00	140.00	0.160	7.30	Clear & Bright				Normal	
Helpingham Helpingham Heckington Heckington Scredington Scredington Great Hale Great Hale Leasingham Cranwell Swaton Timberland (Dorington Fen Supply) Wilsford Anwick	370.00	0.30	21.30	Absent	Absent	0.140	0.004	237.50	40.00	0.00	7.20	Slightly Turbid	NONE	ABSENT	ABSENT	Taste—Normal Colour—Greenish-Brown	
	340.00	3.50	21.30	Absent	Absent	0.132	0.024	245.00	25.00	0.20	7.20	Turbid				Taste—Normal Colour—Slightly Green	
	350.00	0.25	35.50	Absent	Absent	0.288	0.012	222.50	0.00	0.00	7.30	Slightly Turbid				Taste—Normal Colour—Yellowish-Brown	
	400.00	0.20	35.50	Absent	0.003	0.160	0.004	255.00	0.00	0.00	7.30	Slightly Turbid				Normal	
	360.00	2.10	24.90	Absent	Absent	0.080	0.048	240.00	75.00	0.00	7.30	Turbid				Taste—Normal Colour—Yellowish-Brown	
	360.00	4.20	21.30	Absent	Absent	0.004	0.004	235.00	80.00	0.200	7.20	Turbid				Taste—Normal Colour—Yellowish-Brown	
	420.00	0.20	46.10	Absent	Absent	0.060	0.048	235.00	0.00	0.00	7.30	Slightly Turbid				Taste—Normal Colour—Yellow	
	400.00	1.40	49.70	Absent	Absent	0.268	0.004	240.00	0.00	0.120	7.30	Slightly Turbid				Normal	
	370.00	0.25	24.90	5.60	Absent	0.100	0.048	200.00	110.00	0.20	7.30	Slightly Turbid				Normal	
	430.00	Absent	28.40	6.20	0.001	0.016	0.060	200.00	115.00	0.024	7.10	Clear & Bright				Taste—Normal Colour—Slight Brown	
Swaton Timberland (Dorington Fen Supply) Wilsford Anwick	380.00	2.80	21.30	Absent	Absent	0.008	0.024	230.00	75.00	0.120	7.10	Turbid	NONE	ABSENT	ABSENT	Taste—Normal Colour—Brownish-Yellow	
	510.00	3.50	103.40	Absent	Absent	0.144	0.008	240.00	0.00	0.48	7.30	Turbid				Normal	
	420.00	Absent	42.60	4.60	Absent	0.004	0.004	160.00	140.00	0.00	7.90	Clear & Bright				Taste—Normal Colour—Yellow	
	490.00	2.80	106.50	Absent	Absent	0.268	0.004	245.00	0.00	0.12	7.30	Turbid				Taste—Normal Colour—Yellow	

In the reports on Chapel Hill, Dorington Fen, Heckington, Scredington, Timberland, Anwick, Great Hale and Helpingham supplies, the Public Analyst stated "This water was turbid due to brown oxide of iron. This iron is quite harmless but is most undesirable."

PARISH	SUPPLY	CHLORINATED	REMARKS
Anwick	Mixture of Dorrington Fen & Anwick (bores)	Yes	Satisfactory
Asgarby and Howell	Shallow Wells, etc.	No	Unsatisfactory Quality and Quantity
Asby de la Launde and Bloxholme	Asby (bore)	No	Satisfactory
Aswarby	Newton Bar (bore)	Yes	Periodical Insufficiency
Swarby	Shallow Well	No	Unsatisfactory Quality and Quantity
Aunsby and Dembleby	Newton Bar (bore)	Yes	Periodical Insufficiency
Billinghay	Dorrington Fen (bore)	Yes	Satisfactory
Blankney	Private Supply (bore)	No	Satisfactory
Blankney Fen	Dorrington Fen (bore)	No	Satisfactory
Brancewell	Shallow Wells	No	Unsatisfactory Quality
Burton Pedwardine	Burton Pedwardine (bore)	No	Satisfactory
Cranwell Village	Air Ministry (bore)	Yes	Satisfactory
Byard's Leap	Shallow Wells, etc.	No	Unsatisfactory Quality and Quantity
Culverthorpe	Private Supply (Lake)	Yes	Satisfactory
Kelby	Shallow Well	No	Satisfactory
Digby	Scopwick (bore)	No	Unsatisfactory Quality and Quantity
Dogdyke	Dorrington Fen (bore)	Yes	Satisfactory
Dorrington	Dorrington Village (bore)	Yes	Satisfactory
Ewerby and Evedon	Evedon (bore)	Yes	Satisfactory
Great Hale	Great Hale (Artesian)	No	Satisfactory
Heckington	Heckington (bore)	Yes	Satisfactory
Helpingham	Helpingham (bore)	No	Satisfactory
Kirkby la Thorpe	Evedon (bore)	Yes	Satisfactory
Leasingham	Leasingham (bore)	Yes	Satisfactory
Little Hale	Helpingham (bore)	No	Satisfactory
Martin Village	Dorrington Fen (bore)	Yes	Satisfactory
Martin Camp	North Kesteven supply	Yes	Satisfactory
Newton	Newton (bore)	Yes	Periodical Insufficiency
North Kyme	Shallow Well	Yes	Satisfactory
North Rauceby	Land Spring	No	Unsatisfactory Quality and Quantity
Osbourne	Newton Bar (bore)	Yes	Periodical Insufficiency
Rowston	Scopwick (bore)	No	Satisfactory
Roxholme	Shallow Wells, etc.	No	Unsatisfactory Quality and Quantity
Ruskington	Ruskington (bore)	Yes	Satisfactory
Scopwick	Scopwick (bore)	No	Satisfactory
Scredington	Scredington (Artesian)	No	Periodical Low Pressure
Silk Willoughby	Silk Willoughby (Land Spring)	No	Unsatisfactory Quality and Quantity
South Kyme	Dorrington Fen (bore)	Yes	Satisfactory
South Rauceby	South Rauceby (Land Spring)	No	Unsatisfactory Quality and Quantity
Swaton	Swaton (Artesian)	No	Satisfactory
Temple Bruer	Shallow Wells, etc.	No	Unsatisfactory
Threekingham including Spanby	Newton Bar (bore)	Yes	Periodical Insufficiency
Timberland	Dorrington Fen (bore)	Yes	Satisfactory
Walcott 'B'	Dorrington Fen (bore)	Yes	Satisfactory
Wilford	Wilford (bore)	Yes	Periodical Insufficiency

HOUSING.

Despite the progress made in the provision of new housing accommodation in this district the housing problem still continues to be acute. The number of applications for houses on the Council's housing register at the end of the year was 782. This acute shortage of houses in the rural district is a matter of grave concern to the Council and its officers, and is a question which is constantly receiving their attention. The Council are progressing with the erection of new houses as speedily as circumstances allow, and the following figures show the progress made in this direction during the past year and during the post war period.

No. of new houses completed during 1951:—

Traditional brick houses	...	...	...	...	44
Under Financial Provisions Act	...	...	...	...	4
Private houses	...	...	...	...	4
Farm house (private)	...	...	...	...	1
House and shop (private)	...	...	...	...	1

The total number of houses erected in the district during the post war period, up to the end of 1951 are as follows:—

Traditional brick houses	...	...	...	160 (Council)
Swedish timber houses	...	...	...	28 (Council)
Airey houses	...	...	...	180 (Council)
Prefabricated bungalows	...	...	...	60 (Council)
Privately built houses and bungalows	...	...	...	85

In addition 99 former R.A.F. hutments have been converted by the Council into temporary dwellings.

Many houses in the district which are the subject of Demolition Orders are still occupied, and there are many more families living under sub-standard conditions and in houses fit only for demolition order procedure. The problem of the repair and improvement of these sub-standard dwellings is a problem requiring urgent attention and the provision of new housing accommodation will not relieve the housing situation if existing properties are allowed to deteriorate through lack of proper maintenance. These properties, many of them capable of being reconditioned at the present time will rapidly deteriorate until demolition will be the only practical solution. There is no doubt that there is a need for a revision of the Rent Acts, with adequate safeguards of course, to enable local authorities to effectively carry out their duties in

this respect. Effective action under the Housing Acts at the present time is in most cases impossible, since the question of "reasonable expense" is an insurmountable obstacle owing to the high costs of materials and labour.

It was anticipated that the provision of improvement grants under the Housing Act, 1949, would have relieved this problem to some extent, but there is no doubt that the conditions in respect of these grants are generally not acceptable to private owners, unless of course they happen to be owner-occupiers. These grants were not available in respect of "tied" cottages unless the tenancy was freed, consequently they were of little benefit to the agriculturist.

The following table shows the numbers of applications received and action taken with regard to these grants.

Improvement Grants—Housing Act, 1949.

	Applications dealt with by Local Authority.	Applications submitted to Regional Office of Ministry.
Received	8	5
Approved	5	4*
Rejected	2	—
Under consideration	1	1

*subsequently withdrawn by applicant.

Many of the occupiers of houses subject to demolition orders and of other sub-standard properties are elderly persons who cannot afford the high present day rentals of Council houses, and consequently most of them have no hope of ever getting a new house.

During the year twelve licences permitting reoccupation were granted in respect of houses on which demolition orders were operative. This is a practice which, in my opinion, it is time to put an end to, and when such properties become vacant, then demolition should be insisted upon. Legal action in the Sleaford Petty Sessional Court was taken in one instance when the defendant was fined one pound for permitting the reoccupation of a dwelling house, knowing that a demolition order had become

operative, and also a fine of 1/- per day during which the said occupation continued after conviction. £3 3s. od. towards the legal expenses of the Council was allowed.

During the year, application was made to the Sleaford County Court under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949, for the quashing of demolition orders in respect of five cottages, the owners having carried out works of repair and improvement to the satisfaction of the Council.

The information derived from the Rural Housing Survey continues to reveal the low level of housing standards prevailing generally throughout the district. The position at the end of 1951 was as follows:—

Class One	...	...	...	...	...	...	762
Class Two	...	...	...	...	...	...	617
Class Three	...	...	...	...	...	...	731
Class Four	...	...	...	...	...	...	236
Class Five	...	...	...	...	...	...	706
Number surveyed but not yet classified	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
TOTAL SURVEYED							3,073

This survey continues to be carried out as and when pressure of other work permits.

HOUSING.

Housing Statistics for the Year 1951.

Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year.

Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	402
Number of Inspections made for the purpose	771
Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	35
Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	185

Remedy of defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	58
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Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	5
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	5
(b) By local authority in default of owners	—

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Act:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	32
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	32
(b) By local authority in default of owners	—

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling houses represented by M.O.H. or Sanitary Inspector as not capable of being repaired at reasonable expense	9
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	8
(3) Number of houses in respect of which undertakings not to re-let for human habitation were accepted	1

(4) Number of houses in respect of which proposals to make fit were accepted	—
(5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	12
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been made fit	Nil
(e) Proceedings under Housing Act, 1949:— Demolition Orders quashed under Section 2 ...	5

Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding.

No. of dwellings found to be overcrowded during the year	32
No. of families dwelling therein	36
No. of persons dwelling therein	236
No. of notices served to abate overcrowding and which were complied with	1
No. of persons concerned in such cases	5

It is impossible to keep any accurate records regarding the number of cases of overcrowding without the appointment of additional staff. Your officers consider that the "permitted No." in relation to occupied dwellings should be based on the bedroom accommodation available.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Letters and Notices despatched	...	...	...	...	1,154
Statutory Notices serviced	...	...	...	...	37
Matters referred to other Departments	...	...	...	...	52
Complaints received	...	...	...	...	104
Complaints confirmed	...	...	...	...	85
Nuisances found	39

SYNOPSIS OF INSPECTIONS MADE.

Total Number of Inspections made	3,875
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Dwellinghouses

Ordinary	429
Infectious Disease	38
Housing (Rural Housing Survey)	342
Housing Act (Overcrowding)	...	...	...	...	...	28
Housing Inquiries for Other Local Authorities	...	...	...	...	...	18
Disinfections (including Schools, Village Halls, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	10
Filthy and Verminous houses	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cleansing of such houses	...	...	...	...	...	3

Sanitary Conveniences.

Water Closets and Conversions	...	...	...	...	...	113
Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	15
Privies	...	...	...	...	...	149
Chemical Closets	...	...	...	...	...	5
Urinals	...	...	...	...	...	12

Licensed Houses	...	...	...	...	...	34
Cafes, Canteens, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	15
Suspected Food Poisoning inquiries	...	...	...	...	...	11
Food Samples	...	...	...	...	...	4
Vomit Samples	...	...	...	...	...	1
Faeces Samples	...	...	...	...	...	45
Urine Samples	...	...	...	...	...	14
Sputum Samples	...	...	...	...	...	1

Miscellaneous.

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	20
Animals, Poultry, Etc.	...	...	...	...	...	16
Disinfestation	...	...	...	...	...	6
Verminous persons	...	...	...	...	...	3
Meetings with Owners, Tradesmen	...	...	...	...	...	345
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	179
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	1
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	14
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	42
Pests	...	...	...	...	...	13
Sanitary Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	124
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	62
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	...	...	43
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	53
Yards and Courts	...	...	...	...	...	6
Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	...	54
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	158
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	81
Building Licences	...	...	...	...	...	5
Exhumations	...	...	...	...	...	—
Dangerous Buildings and Structures	...	...	...	...	...	14
Streams and Ponds	...	...	...	...	...	11
Samples of River Water	...	...	...	...	...	2
Squatters Huts	...	...	...	...	...	69

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health, including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors.

	Inspections	No, of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	16	2	Nil
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	37	4	Nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority, but not including outworkers' premises	15	Nil	Nil
	<hr/> 68	<hr/> 6	<hr/> Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found:—

	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	3	3
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—
Sanitary Convenience (S.7)—		
Insufficient	3	2
Unsuitable or defective	3	3
Not separate for sexes	—	—
Other Offences against the Act, not including offences relating to out-work	4	4
Total	<hr/> 13	<hr/> 12
Referred to H.M. Inspector	Nil	
Referred by H.M. Inspector	2	
Number of offences in respect of which prosecutions were instituted	Nil	

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

Outworkers.

Nature of Work	No. of outworkers	No. of cases in which default in sending lists to Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of some premises work in unwhole-	Notices served	Prosecutions
Curtains and furniture hangings	1	—	—	—	—	—

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